

2013 Needs Assessment for Dallas County

Honorable R.E. Armstrong, III

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Supt. Gerald Shirley
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Anita Boswell
Rebecca L. Smith
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Melvina Moss
Niko Phillips
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Felicia Jones
Leith Wilson

Judge Kim Ballard
Tania Baldwin
Nancy Travis
Chief William Riley
Elizabeth Abernathy
Teresa Williams
Nancy Woods
Tracey England
Kellee Waters
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Lafon Barlow
Lorraine Capers
LaTanya Norris
Cindy Duck
Felicia Pettway
Dr. James Mitchell
Sheila Hatfield
Vici Hooker
Robert Pettus

Accomplishments

Established, opened and operating Family Resource Center
Established Dallas County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)
Operating Compass Academy
Collaborating with Child Advocacy Center
Dallas County Detention Center
Juvenile Drug Court
Family Drug Court
Adult Drug Court
Mediation Program
Teen Court
Safe School Challenge
Youth Opportunities Program
Community Service Program
Started Workforce Investment Act Program
Created JISP (Juvenile Intensive Supervision Program)
Restarted Dallas County Fatherhood Initiative
Started Veterans Court
Started Mental Health Court
Created the ABOVE Program

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First Priority

Need related to children of this county

Improve academic performance of students

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Family Resource Center Wallace Community College Selma/Dallas Public Library Career Link Safe School Challenge HIPPO Program SPAN Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Tutoring programs School system (credit recovery)	Need to enhance/improve services offered in the Alternative schools Need to establish a connection between all resources available for students

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Have written grants to achieve this goal
2. Work with the school system to provide wrap around services through the alternative school
3. Provide vocational training in schools

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Second Priority

Need related to children of this county

High rate of gang influence and teen pregnancy

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Sav-A-Life GREAT - Selma Police Department Gang Task Force Credit Recovery Program Re-entry plan through Juvenile Probation Office- Juvenile Intensive Supervision Vision Network-System of services for juvenile intervention	Alternative School-will incorporate a mixture of intensive educational, therapeutic and family services Abstinence program Single parent support groups Teen Pregnancy prevention program

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Work with the schools to bring students to the courtroom for presentations and testimonies on the negative consequences of gang related activities
2. Have a coordinator to spearhead community and school awareness of the high rate of gang influence as well as teen pregnancies
3. Establish an alternative school to help meet the needs of at-risk youth presently in the court system
4. Continue to expand safe after school programs and positive activities as a deterrent to negative behavior

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Third Priority

Need related to children of this county

Job Readiness

Existing resources available to help meet this need include:	Resources needed but unavailable to meet this need include:
Career Link Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Ready to Work -Wallace Community College Selma Department of Human Resources Jobs Program Fatherhood Initiative	A clearing house and network for jobs is needed to help people that are ready to work get employment Provide incentives to employers

Action steps that will result in progress toward meeting the identified need:

1. Continue to work with existing programs
2. Address transportation issue of how to get people to work when they find employment
3. Establish a job clearing house/network to help place people in jobs